

## CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5           1. A substantially purified salivary *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide.
2. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises
  - a) an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;
  - 15       b) a conservative variant of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;
  - 20       c) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least eight consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, that specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, respectively; or
  - 25       d) the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, and wherein administration of the polypeptide to a subject produces an immune response to *Lu. longipalpis*.
  - 30
  - 35

3. The *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, or a conservative variant thereof.

4. The *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67.

5. An antigenic fragment of the polypeptide of claim 4.

6. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67.

7. An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1.

8. The nucleic acid of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 64, SEQ ID NO: 66, or SEQ ID NO: 68, or a degenerate variant thereof.

9. The nucleic acid of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16,

-77-

SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 64, SEQ ID NO: 66, or SEQ ID NO: 68.

5

10. The nucleic acid of claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid encodes an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 30, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 42, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 48, SEQ ID NO: 50, SEQ ID NO: 52, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 56, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 64, SEQ ID NO: 66, or SEQ ID NO: 68.

15

11. The nucleic acid of claim 7, operably linked to an expression control sequence.

12. The nucleic acid of claim 11, wherein the expression control sequence is a promoter.

20

13. The nucleic acid of claim 12, wherein the promoter is an inducible or constitutive promoter.

14. The nucleic acid of claim 13, wherein the promoter is a cytomegalovirus promoter.

15. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 7.

25

16. The vector of claim 15, wherein the vector is a plasmid.

17. The vector of claim 15, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

18. A host cell transformed with the vector of claim 15.

30

19. An antibody that specifically binds the polypeptide of claim 1.

20. The antibody of claim 19, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

35

21. The antibody of claim 20, comprising a detectable label.

22. The antibody of claim 21, wherein the label is a fluorescent, enzymatic or radioactive label.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

25. A method for inducing an immune response to a *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide in a subject, comprising:

administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of :

a) an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

b) a conservative variant of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

c) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least eight consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, that specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67,

respectively; or

d) the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49,

-79-

SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67; or

(e) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide set forth in (a), (b), (c), or (d), thereby inducing the immune response to the *Lu. longipalpis* polypeptide in a  
5 subject.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the immune response is a T cell response.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the immune response is a B cell response.

10

28. The method of claim 25, wherein the subject is a non-human veterinary subject.

29. The method of claim 25, wherein the subject is a dog.

15

30. The method of claim 25, wherein the subject is a human.

31. A method for inhibiting a symptom of a *Leishmania* infection or preventing a *Leishmania* infection in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of:

20

a) an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to an amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

25

b) a conservative variant of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67;

30

c) an immunogenic fragment comprising at least eight consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, that specifically binds to an antibody that specifically binds the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID

35

-80-

NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67,

5 respectively; or

d) the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67; or

(e) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide set forth in (a), (b), (c), or (d);  
thereby inhibiting the symptom of the *Leishmania* infection or preventing the *Leishmania* infection.

15

32. Use of a composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 or a nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament.

33. Use of the composition of claim 32, in conjunction with a composition comprising a *P. ariasi* or a *P. perniciosus* polypeptide for the manufacture of a medicament.

34. A method of diagnosing *Leishmania* infection in a subject, comprising:  
contacting a solid substrate comprising at least three, six, or ten polypeptides, wherein each of the polypeptides comprises one amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 29, SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41, SEQ ID NO: 43, SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, or SEQ ID NO: 67, or an immunogenic fragment thereof;

30

contacting the solid substrate with a sample obtained from the subject; and  
detecting binding of a component of the sample to at least one polypeptide on the solid substrate, wherein detection of binding of the component to the substrate indicates that the subject is infected with *Leishmania*,

35

thereby diagnosing *Leishmania* infection in the subject.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein one of the at least three polypeptides comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein another of the at least three polypeptides

-81-

comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 23, and wherein a further of the at least three polypeptides comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 39.

36. The method of claim 34, wherein the solid substrate comprises at least six polypeptides,  
5 wherein a first polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein  
a second polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 11, wherein a  
third polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 19, wherein a fourth  
polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 29, wherein a fifth  
polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 55, and wherein a sixth  
10 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth as SEQ ID NO: 59.

37. The method of claim 34, wherein the solid substrate comprises a polystyrene bead, a  
chip, a membrane, or a plate.

15 38. The method of claim 34, wherein detecting comprises contacting the component bound  
to the solid substrate with a labeled secondary antibody.